

Abstract

5 A method for the detection of an analyte in a fluid, comprising contacting the  
fluid with a holographic element comprising a medium and a hologram disposed  
throughout the volume of the medium, wherein an optical characteristic of the  
element changes as a result of a variation of a physical property occurring throughout  
the volume of the medium, wherein the variation arises as a result of interaction  
between the medium and the analyte, and wherein the reaction and the variation are  
10 reversible; and detecting any change of the optical characteristic.